(b) if so, the reasons for which the rebate is available only for one dependant irrespective of the number of dependents; and

(c) whether Government propose to remove the anomaly and give benefit for the number of actual handicapped dependents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Section 80DD of the Income Tax Act provides for a deduction of Rs. 40,000 on account of any expenditure incurred for the medical treatment, training and rehabilitation of a handicapped dependent or an approved annuity insurance scheme for the maintenance of a handicapped dependent.

(b) Under the existing scheme of personal income taxation, tax rebates/concessions including the deduction under section 80DD are not linked with the number of dependents/family members.

(c) The suggestion made by Honourable member will be considered during the annual budgetary exercise and the Government's response will be reflected in the Finance Bill 2003.

Calculation of Income

1998. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that honorarium is paid for delivering lecture to the trainees, setting of question paper, setting of papers, invigilation duties outside the duties performed in the ordinary course and are not covered under FR 46; and

(b) if so, whether any limit has been fixed therefor, and the details thereof and whether the said earning comes under the heading "income from other sources" for the purpose of calculation of income with the details thereof and upto what extent it is free from income tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir. Honorarium is paid for delivering lecture to the trainees, setting of question paper, setting of papers, invigilation duties outside the duties performed in the ordinary course. It is covered under FR 46 (b).

(b) The maximum ceiling of honorarium is Rs. 5000/- per annum and the same is taxable as per the provisions of the Income Tax Act.